



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Bill No. 1055**

LCO No. 3386

\*03386\_\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:

SEN. DELUCA, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

REP. WARD, 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
STRATEGY BOARD AND THE CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL  
AND CEDARCREST REGIONAL HOSPITAL MERGER.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17a-485a of the general statutes is repealed and  
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (a) Expenditures from the Community Mental Health Strategic  
4 Investment Fund established under section 17a-485 [shall] may be  
5 made in accordance with a community mental health strategic plan  
6 and financial assistance plan adopted by the Community Mental  
7 Health Strategy Board established under section 17a-485b on or before  
8 January 1, 2002, and annually thereafter. Such strategic plan shall be  
9 consistent with other applicable state plans for mental health services.

10 (b) The Commissioners of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
11 Children and Families, Economic and Community Development,  
12 Education, Correction, Public Health and Social Services, the Secretary  
13 of the Office of Policy and Management and the Chief Court

14 Administrator [shall] may provide such information, including, but  
15 not limited to, information regarding needs assessments, program  
16 reviews and program revenues and expenses, and make such  
17 recommendations for expenditures from the account established under  
18 section 17a-485, as may be requested by the board.

19 Sec. 2. Section 17a-485b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
20 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

21 (a) There is established a Community Mental Health Strategy Board  
22 which shall be advisory to the Commissioner of Mental Health and  
23 Addiction Services. The voting members of the board shall be  
24 appointed as follows: (1) Two members by the Governor; (2) two  
25 members by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) two members  
26 by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (4) one member by the  
27 majority leader of the Senate; (5) one member by the majority leader of  
28 the House of Representatives; (6) two members by the minority leader  
29 of the Senate; (7) two members by the minority leader of the House of  
30 Representatives; (8) the Commissioner of Children and Families; and  
31 (9) the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, who  
32 shall serve as chairperson. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
33 Management, the Chief Court Administrator and the Commissioners  
34 of Economic and Community Development, Education, Correction,  
35 Public Health and Social Services, or their designees, shall serve as  
36 nonvoting ex-officio members of the board. Board members shall serve  
37 without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their necessary  
38 expenses. All initial appointments to the board shall be made not later  
39 than September 1, 2001. The Commissioner of Mental Health and  
40 Addiction Services shall convene the first meeting of the board not  
41 later than September 15, 2001.

42 (b) The board, by majority vote of the voting members, [shall] may,  
43 not less than annually, [approve] advise the Commissioner of Mental  
44 Health and Addiction Services concerning commitments and  
45 disbursements that [the Commissioner of Mental Health and

46   Addiction Services] said commissioner may make from the  
47   Community Mental Health Strategic Investment Fund established  
48   under section 17a-485 for the purposes of sections 17a-485 to 17a-485c,  
49   inclusive, and section 4 of public act 01-8 of the June special session\*;  
50   [that are consistent with the community mental health strategic plan  
51   adopted under subsection (a) of section 17a-485a. The board may (1)  
52   designate the appropriate state agencies or the Connecticut Housing  
53   Finance Authority to receive such disbursements and to implement the  
54   provisions of sections 17a-485 to 17a-485c, inclusive, and section 4 of  
55   public act 01-8 of the June special session\*, or (2) in conjunction with  
56   one or more state agencies or the Connecticut Housing Finance  
57   Authority, issue requests for proposals and request the Commissioner  
58   of Mental Health and Addiction Services to enter into contracts to  
59   make disbursements and implement the provisions of sections 17a-485  
60   to 17a-485c, inclusive, and section 4 of public act 01-8 of the June  
61   special session\*. The board shall designate the assignment of funds not  
62   otherwise assigned to the subaccounts established under section 17a-  
63   485 as the board deems appropriate.]

64       (c) The [board] Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction  
65   Services shall, not later than February 1, 2002, and annually thereafter,  
66   report to the Governor and the General Assembly, in accordance with  
67   the provisions of section 11-4a. The report shall include a description  
68   of all disbursements made from the account established under section  
69   17a-485 during the prior fiscal year and an evaluation of the impact of  
70   each program or service receiving such disbursements with respect to  
71   its outcome and effectiveness in expanding access to quality,  
72   appropriate community-based mental health care.

73       (d) Within the limits of available appropriations, the Department of  
74   Mental Health and Addiction Services [shall] may provide for such  
75   staff and other administrative support as may be required by the board  
76   for the purposes of sections 17a-485 to 17a-485c, inclusive, subsection  
77   (h) of section 8-395, subsection (c) of section 54-56g, subsection (g) of  
78   section 54-56i, section 54-56k and sections 4, 7, 11 and 12 of public act

79 01-8 of the June special session\*.

80 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 17a-485d of the general statutes is  
81 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
82 *1, 2005*):

83 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall take such action as  
84 may be necessary to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide for  
85 coverage of optional adult rehabilitation services supplied by  
86 providers of mental health services or substance abuse rehabilitation  
87 services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness or who  
88 have alcoholism or other substance abuse conditions, that are certified  
89 by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. [For the  
90 fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, and June 30, 2005, up to three million  
91 dollars in each such fiscal year of any moneys received by the state as  
92 federal reimbursement for optional Medicaid adult rehabilitation  
93 services shall be credited to the Community Mental Health Restoration  
94 subaccount within the account established under section 17a-485 and  
95 shall be available for use for the purposes of the subaccount.] The  
96 Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance  
97 with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement optional rehabilitation  
98 services under the Medicaid program. The commissioner shall  
99 implement policies and procedures to administer such services while  
100 in the process of adopting such policies or procedures in regulation  
101 form, provided notice of intention to adopt the regulations is printed  
102 in the Connecticut Law Journal within forty-five days of  
103 implementation, and any such policies or procedures shall be valid  
104 until the time final regulations are effective.

105 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 17a-450 of the general statutes is  
106 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
107 *1, 2005*):

108 (b) For the purposes of chapter 50, the Department of Mental Health  
109 and Addiction Services [shall be a single budgeted agency. It shall  
110 consist of two divisions, the Division of Mental Health Services and the

111 Division of Substance Abuse Services, that] shall be organized to  
112 promote comprehensive, client-based services in the areas of mental  
113 health treatment and substance abuse treatment and to ensure the  
114 programmatic integrity and clinical identity of services in each area.  
115 The department shall perform the functions of: Centralized  
116 administration, planning and program development; prevention and  
117 treatment programs and facilities, both inpatient and outpatient, for  
118 persons with psychiatric disabilities or persons with substance abuse  
119 disabilities, or both; community mental health centers and community  
120 or regional programs and facilities providing services for persons with  
121 psychiatric disabilities or persons with substance abuse disabilities, or  
122 both; training and education; and research and evaluation of programs  
123 and facilities providing services for persons with psychiatric  
124 disabilities or persons with substance abuse disabilities, or both. The  
125 department shall include, but not be limited to, the following divisions  
126 and facilities or their successor facilities: The office of the  
127 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Capitol  
128 Region Mental Health Center; Connecticut Valley Hospital, including  
129 the Acute Care Division of Connecticut Valley Hospital; the  
130 Connecticut Mental Health Center; the Whiting Forensic Division;  
131 Ribicoff Research Center; [Cedarcrest Hospital;] the Southwest  
132 Connecticut Mental Health System, including the Franklin S. DuBois  
133 Center and the Greater Bridgeport Community Mental Health Center;  
134 the Southeastern Mental Health Authority; River Valley Services; the  
135 Western Connecticut Mental Health Network; and any other  
136 state-operated facility for the treatment of persons with psychiatric  
137 disabilities or persons with substance abuse disabilities, or both, but  
138 shall not include those portions of such facilities transferred to the  
139 Department of Children and Families for the purpose of consolidation  
140 of children's services.

141 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 17a-458 of the general statutes is  
142 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
143 *1, 2005*):

144 (c) "State-operated facilities" means those hospitals or other facilities  
 145 providing treatment for persons with psychiatric disabilities or for  
 146 persons with substance abuse disabilities, or both, which are operated  
 147 in whole or in part by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction  
 148 Services. Such facilities include, but are not limited to, Capitol Region  
 149 Mental Health Center, Connecticut Valley Hospital, including the  
 150 Acute Care Division of Connecticut Valley Hospital, Norwich  
 151 Hospital, Fairfield Hills Hospital, the Connecticut Mental Health  
 152 Center, the Franklin S. DuBois Center, [Cedarcrest Regional Hospital,]  
 153 the Greater Bridgeport Community Mental Health Center [, Blue Hills  
 154 Hospital, Berkshire Woods Treatment Center, Eugene Boneski  
 155 Treatment Center,] and Dutcher Treatment Center. [, but shall not  
 156 include those portions of such facilities transferred to the Department  
 157 of Children and Families for the purpose of consolidation of children's  
 158 services.]

159 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) If the term "Acute Care  
 160 Division" is used or referred to in any public or special act of 2005 or  
 161 2006 or in any section of the general statutes that is amended in 2005 or  
 162 2006, it shall be deemed to mean or refer to the Acute Care Division of  
 163 Connecticut Valley Hospital.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	17a-485a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	17a-485b
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	17a-485d(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	17a-450(b)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	17a-458(c)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*